

More troops deployed in Beirut

AMMAN, Feb. 6 (R). — Reinforcement troops were sent into Beirut over the weekend following a recent spate of bomb explosions in the city. Estimates of the number of troops involved varied from 1,200 to 2,000. No official comment was available from the Arab League Peace Force. The sources said the reinforcements had been prompted by three explosions in as many days last week in the city centre. One person was killed and 20 were wounded in the blasts. Troops armed with automatic rifles set up new road blocks on both sides of the former front line between predominantly Moslem western Beirut and the Christian east.

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Badran: Palestinians must play "full role" in peace negotiations

AMMAN, Feb. 6 (Agencies). — Prime Minister Musa Badran said today that this country would not settle for less than total Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories in any Middle East peace settlement.

Mr. Badran, who was explaining Jordan's position on a possible Middle East peace to a visiting Soviet tourist delegation, also said any such withdrawal should include Arab Jerusalem.

Jordan insisted that the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people should be restored and wanted a just and comprehensive settlement which respected the sovereignty and security of all states in the area, he added.

Mr. Badran, whose remarks were published by the official Jordan News Agency, said Jordan would not support the Palestinians in any talks which concerned the Palestine issue.

"The Palestinian people should play its full role and through Palestinian representatives in any talks which aim at solving the Palestinian issue with all its ramifications," Mr. Badran said.

Mr. Badran expressed satisfaction with Jordan's relations with the Soviet Union and his appreciation of what he described as the position of the Soviet Union on the Middle East question, especially in its capacity as co-chairman of the Geneva peace conference.

Mr. Badran said that "Jordan is convinced that if Israel continues its intransigence and deception... the area and the entire world will face great dangers."

The leader of the delegation, Mr. Sergei Nikitin, head of foreign tourism in the Soviet Union, expressed his country's support for Jordan's position and called for total Israeli withdrawal from Arab land and for a restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

Brzezinski favours arms sales to Egypt

ASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (R). — President Carter's national security adviser said in an interview published yesterday that his administration will have to give very serious consideration to President Anwar Sadat's request for U.S. arms.

Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, in a copyrighted interview in the weekly magazine U.S. News & World Report, said:

"I think we'll have to give very serious consideration. After all, what is important is to avoid the situation which the Egyptian military man to Sadat and say: 'You've burned your bridges with Soviets, and now you have to leave in a defenceless position.'

Dr. Brzezinski, head of the White House National Security Council, added: "I don't think that's in our interest. I don't think that's in Israel's interest."

President Sadat called for sophisticated U.S. weapons including F-5E fighters after he broke off political negotiations with Israel last month.

According to informed sources the Pentagon, the State Department and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency recently told President Carter they have no objection to the sale of about 50 F-5E to Egypt.

In the interview, Dr. Brzezinski said he hoped the Carter administration could reactivate the negotiating process between President Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, and widen it to involve the Jordanians and "moderate" Palestinians.

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A comparatively cheap reception dish (which can be locally manufactured) is all that will be required to pick up Arabsat's signals. You could even have CTV before you have electricity... using solar energy.

It will be possible for a single country to hire one of Arabsat's "transponders" (sets of channels) to use for its own national programmes. This for instance might be attractive to the Sudan where to install nationwide television is otherwise a daunting prospect.

"It is only through telecommunications" Mr. Ismail asserted "that the real unity of the Arab countries can be realized economically, socially, in every respect."

Not for spying

The satellite will not be used for military purposes, Mr. Ismail said.

"This is purely, 100 per cent civilian."

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"This is where a lot of people were mistaken when they said: How can we benefit... what is the advantage of getting to the moon?" Mr. Ismail said.

The satellite itself when it is finally set in its orbit is relatively free from any environmental effects if we com-

pare it with equipment working within the earth's atmosphere."

It has a life expectancy of at least ten years and this might be lengthened if the solar cells and batteries which power it are improved.

Three satellites are actually involved in the project: one operating and one standing by in space and the third in readiness on the ground. Each satellite has between 12 and 14 transponders. One transponder can be used alternatively for one T.V. channel or for about 400 telephone channels (the theoretical maximum is just under 1,000). This means that in theory, if it turned all its transponders over to telephony using the distance direct dialling (DDD) system, Arabsat could relay about 6,000 telephone calls all at the same time. Alternatively you can use one

telephone to send 24 telexes, 144,000 telex messages being instantaneously beamed around the Arab world all at the same time — a businessman's dream you might think. But this said Mr. Ismail is "only a drop in the sea" — it will "never be enough to cope with all requirements". And of course with some of the transponders used for T.V. or leased privately this full capacity would never in practice be available.

Demand for international telephone services grows at 20 per cent a year in the world and by no less than 100 per cent in Jordan.

There is, then, no question of the Arab countries withdrawing from Intelsat, the international satellite scheme on which they rely at present, for space telecommunications. "We will increase our relationship with Intelsat" Mr. Ismail said.

16 Arab states have now approved the agreement and pa-

id five per cent of their share of the \$100 million capital needed to float the project (final costs are now estimated at closer to \$160 million). Shares are divided proportionally to the amount of usage envisaged for each country.

Arabsat is intended to be a profit-making corporation. Saudi Arabia at present dominates the scheme with a 26.2 per cent share while Jordan's share is 3.3 per cent.

The satellite's ground control with tracking, telemetry and command (TTM) functions will be established in Saudi Arabia, although the satellite itself will probably be launched from Cape Kennedy in the U.S. The biggest computer required for the project is already available in Saudi Arabia and has not been included in the cost estimates.

Mr. Ismail has recently returned from the fifth session of the Board of Directors in Riyadh. A general manager has been appointed and after putting out tenders for consultancy in May 1977 the corporation has now drawn up a short list of three consultant consortiums in order of merit.

Sadat: Palestinian state will be a force of stability

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (R). — President Anwar Sadat said today he would give peace every possible chance despite obstacles he accused Israel of erecting in Middle East peace negotiations.

But he declared that Israel was hardening its position and had embarked on a course that encouraged lawlessness, anarchy and aggression.

The Egyptian leader, who held talks with President Carter at the weekend, appealed to Americans to support his demands for an Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory and for creation of a Palestinian state.

He outlined his case against Israel in a speech to the National Press Club after meeting Jewish leaders here this morning.

President Sadat said it was

a fallacy to claim, as Israel had done, that the creation of a Palestinian entity meant the destruction of the Jewish state.

"A Palestinian state, linked with Jordan, will be a positive force for stability and normalcy in the area," he declared. "Without it the structure of peace will remain vulnerable."

He accused Israel of "sheer defiance and escalation" in creating new civilian settlements and expanding existing settlements in occupied Arab territory.

The Israeli government can

not hide behind fanatic groups which are beating the drums of war in their feverish campaign to build these settlements," Mr. Sadat said.

"It is the task and responsibility of every government to curb the excesses of all individuals and groups.

American and Egyptian sources said today that President Carter has persuaded President Sadat to be patient towards Israel and improve the prospects for a resumption of the stalled Middle East peace talks.

Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton is to return to the region in about 10 days to try to bring Egypt and Israel closer to understanding that might persuade President Sadat to resume political negotiations he broke off last month.

Mr. Dayan said that, in his opinion, there was no reason to hide Israel's activities in Ethiopia. Israel wanted friendship with Ethiopia, and one of the reasons for this was their control of the approaches to the Red Sea. The route for oil tankers on their way to Israel

DAYAN ADMITS ISRAEL SELLS ARMS TO ETHIOPIA

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6 (AP). — Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said Monday that Israel was selling weapons to Ethiopia in that country's war against Somalia, Israel Radio reported.

Mr. Dayan told Israel Radio reporter Micha Imor in Zurich that Israel was not supplying manpower or planes, but said "we are selling some arms to Ethiopia".

Mr. Dayan said that, in his opinion, there was no reason to hide Israel's activities in Ethiopia. Israel wanted friendship with Ethiopia, and one of the reasons for this was their control of the approaches to the Red Sea. The route for oil tankers on their way to Israel

Israeli police break up Nablus protest

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6 (R). — Israeli security forces yesterday broke up a demonstration by Nablus youths in the occupied West Bank who were protesting against Jewish settlements in the area and against President Anwar Sadat's peace initiative.

Shouting anti-Israel and anti-Sadat slogans, groups of young people moved through the town centre and tried to get shopkeepers to close down.

Israeli security forces rushed the demonstrators and arrested a number of them.

New satellite will beam Pan-Arab T.V. to remotest corners

By Ian Kellar special to the Jordan Times

JORDAN — The Arab satellite project launched two years ago now well off the ground.

Two months and the "Arabsat" satellite should be floating 36,000 kms. above the surface of the earth by 1980.

It will be the first regional international project in space telecommunications in the world.

As Mr. Mohammad Shihab Ismail, Director General of Jordan's Telecommunications Corporation and Vice-Chairman in Arabsat, pointed out in an interview with the Jordan Times.

Because of geographical obstacles in the long spread of the Arab world, the easiest to telephone from Amman.

Tunis is by satellite. Your calls take in fact about quarter of a second to arrive.

To provide a comparable terrestrial telecommunications network linking the countries of the Arab League would be very expensive, difficult and time consuming. From its synchronous orbit in space, Arabsat will be able to take in the whole of the Arab World in a glance, acting not just as a telephone relay but also as an agent of Arab unification.

The satellite will make possible a pan-Arab T.V. broadcast, which as Mr. Ismail envisaged it, would include education, health and science programmes.

He did not think there would be a central Arab broadcasting studio, however, programmes would be prepared by individual countries and put together under the auspices of the Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU).

Arabsat will also make T.V.

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it is at present. Community Television (CTV) will be able to reach to every house... no matter how remote it is" Mr. Ismail said.

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Short list named

Mr. Ismail revealed that these are: The AEA group (Arab European and American); Telesat (of Canada) together with Cable and Wireless; and Comsat General (of the U.S.). No Eastern bloc country has been in competition. The final selection will be made by a four-member committee chaired by Saudi Arabia after Feb. 15 of this year.

The consultancy contract is worth between \$16 million and \$26 million. Among the functions of the successful consortium will be to run a training programme (for about a year) for the satellite's operators. Mr. Ismail is confident that the

DR. WALEED BILBEISI

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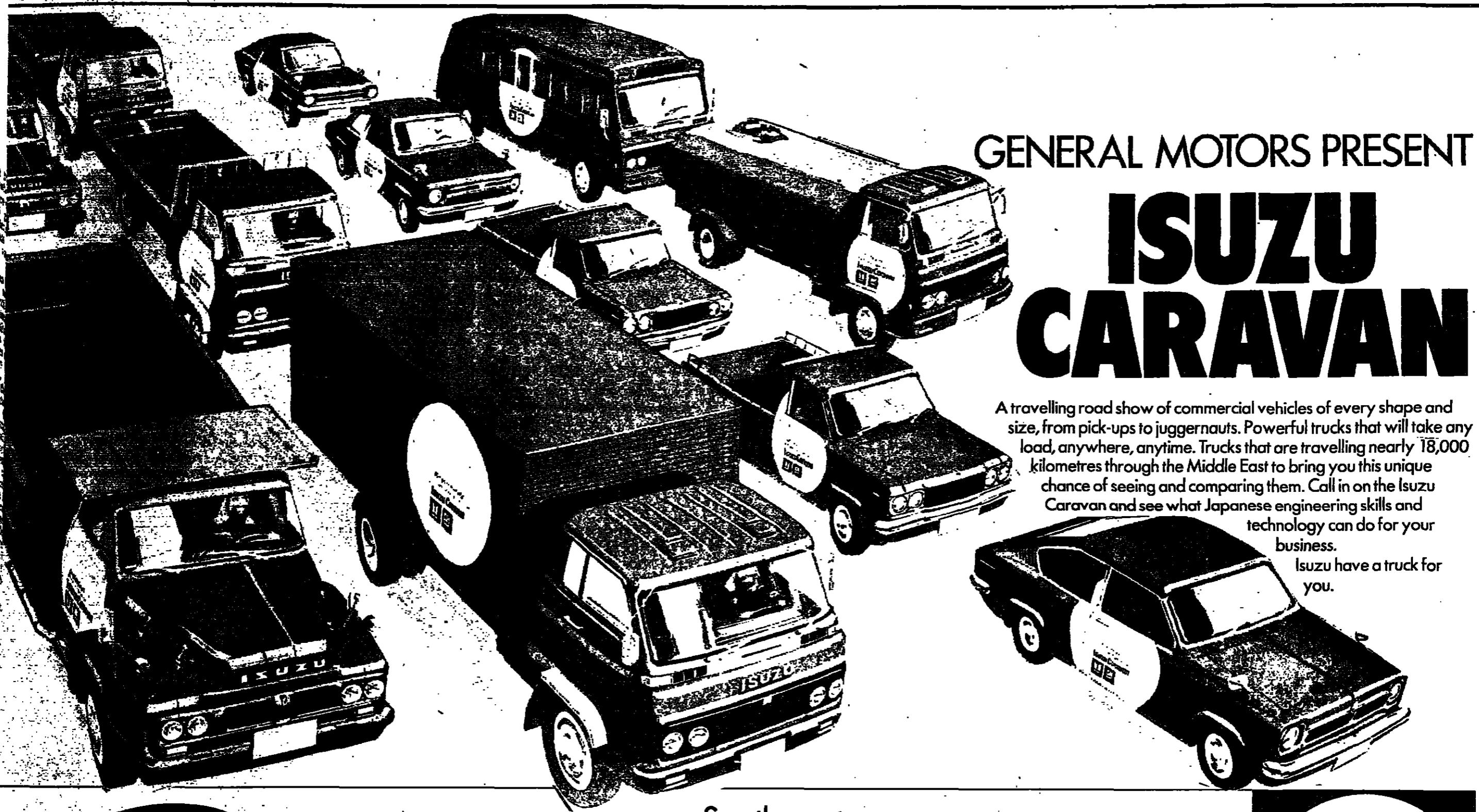
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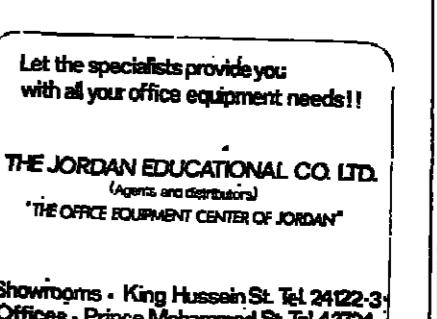
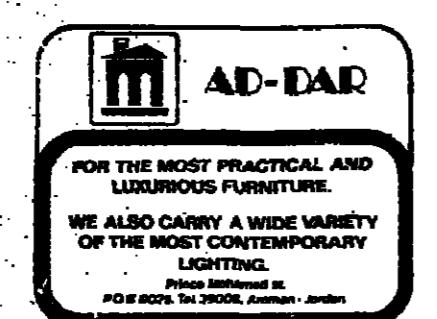
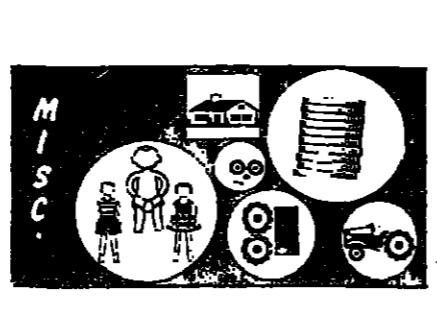
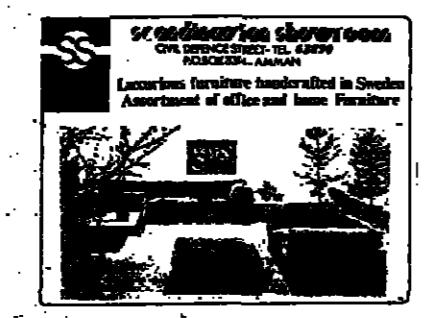
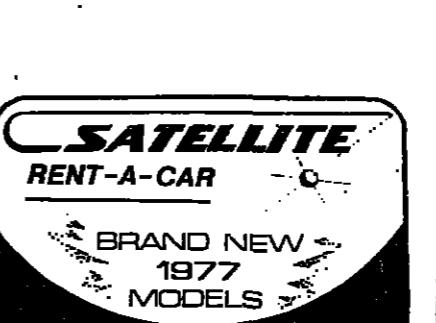
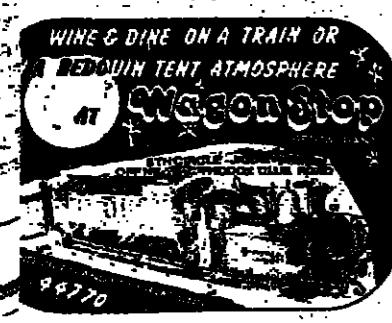
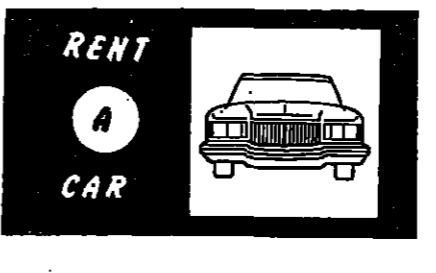
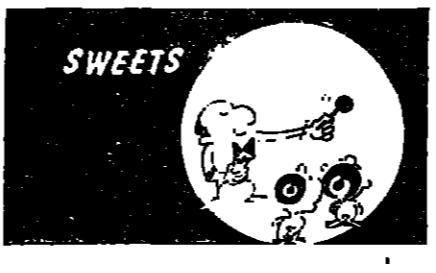
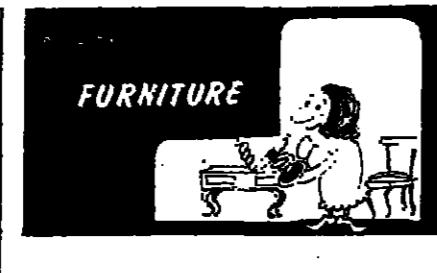
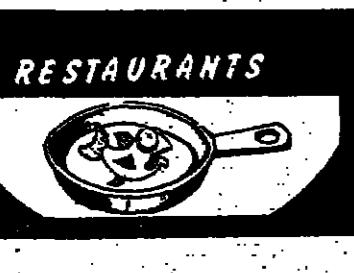
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AMMAN MARKETPLACE



Prospects for left victory send French franc to record low

PARIS, Feb. 6 (R). — The French franc dropped to a record low against the German mark and the Swiss franc today as prospects of a leftwing victory in next month's general election remained strong. Dealers quoted the mark at 2.33/2.34 francs against 2.32/2.33 late on Friday, while the Swiss franc rose to 2.50/2.52 from 2.48/2.50 before the weekend.

The French currency slipped to 4.92/83 against the dollar and the Bank of France was reported selling dollars to ease pressure on the franc. The size of today's initial bank support was not immediately clear. But it was estimated to have spent some \$200 million by Friday, two days af-

ter the run on the franc began.

Prime Minister Raymond Barre said in a campaign speech on Friday the government would intervene to limit any further drop in the franc's value when the foreign exchange reopened today. He said, "The government is responsible for

the currency, so it will make sure there is not too serious a drop."

But M. Barre said his intention to support the franc seemed to have had little effect on the market.

The foreign exchange's reaction last week suited politicians of the ruling centre-right coalition, who were quick to contend that the market jitters showed how foreign opinion would react if the left won.

But Socialist leader Francois Mitterrand accused M. Barre of encouraging speculation against the franc to score election campaign points, and blamed the government's economic policies for the fall.

Polls favour left

The latest public opinion poll, published in the socialist daily *Le Matin* on Saturday, gave Socialists, Communists and Leftwing Radicals a total of 51 per cent of the vote against 45 per cent for the government parties. This would give the left a parliamentary majority of 19.

While these findings were similar to those of other pollsters in recent weeks, the latest poll did highlight what could be a significant change of attitude among Socialist voters.

Under France's two-tier voting system, a run-off ballot is held in constituencies where no candidate achieves an absolute majority in the first round, and many seats depend on how supporters of beaten candidates vote the second time round.

Saturday's poll showed that 56 per cent of socialist voters would support a Communist candidate in a run-off against a Gaullist, compared with 46 per cent last month.

The same proportion of Socialists would back a Communist against a Gaucadian or Centrist candidate. Three per cent more than the previous poll's findings.

Political constraints will increasingly move the Saudi rulers to place more weight on arguments that their oil is worth more in the ground for future production than it is produced for Western markets.

Financial outlays needed to increase production are considered by some Saudis to be too high and not worth spending.

Technical problems, due in part to a failure to upgrade pumps, waterflooding and other field equipment, have resulted in loss of pressure and production in some wells.

CIA cuts estimate of Saudi Arabia's oil output capacity

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (R). — The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has sharply cut its estimate of Saudi Arabia's oil producing capacity, the Washington Post reported yesterday.

According to the CIA's latest calculations, the paper also said the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is pumping up its oil at a rate far closer to its limit than was previously thought.

The Post added, however, that government and oil company experts are sceptical about the CIA's new figures. A CIA spokesman, contacted by Reuters, refused to confirm or deny the Post's report.

According to the newspaper, the CIA now estimates Saudi production capacity at 8.8 million barrels of oil a day.

Last year it publicly put the figure at 11.5 million barrels.

The unused production capacity of OPEC nations is now calculated by the CIA at 2.5 million barrels a day the Post said. Last year the CIA said OPEC was producing 9.4 million barrels a day less than it could.

OPEC nations produced about 31 million barrels of oil a day last year.

The Washington Post said the CIA's secret analysis showed:

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Shah reschedules Pakistani debt, offers to finance Indian projects

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, Feb. 6 (R). — The Shah of Iran agreed to reschedule repayment of a \$570 million Iranian loan to Pakistan during a brief visit yesterday the country's military ruler Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq announced.

The Shah made a five-hour stop on this way home from a visit to India and conferred for an hour with Gen. Zia-ul-Haq.

The loan, made four years ago to support Pakistan's bala-

nce of payments after the world oil crisis, was due to be repaid later this year.

In New Delhi the Shah ended a four-day official visit to India with a generous offer to finance several important development projects.

The offer was contained in a joint communiqué issued yesterday which said Iran would supply crude oil to India in addition to its present commitment of 5.5 million tons to help raise rupees for these projects.

For international gangsters operating across the Swiss-Italian border business has never been brisker. With 20 m. Italians crossing the frontier posts in a year, it is not easy to sort out the criminals.

By Norris Willatt

LUGANO, (FT) — The borderland between Italy and Switzerland is in danger of turning into a wild West type frontier where malefactors of all kinds flourish. Well maybe that's an exaggeration. But the growing use of the region by such people to plot their crimes and dispose of the proceeds is certainly upsetting the Italian border police.

The environment of the region, alleges the border police report on 1977, is coming to represent an "osmosis of criminality", with the operation of "international bands of swindlers, counterfeiters, robbers, kidnappers and similar delinquents." And that is not even counting the well established drugs and contraband merchandise industry.

The Italian authorities are deeply concerned since they have reason to believe that most of the crimes of which they complain are committed in Italy; but the criminals tend to use nearby Switzerland as a haven from which to plot their coups, and as a hideout from which to dispose of the proceeds.

It is not secret that money from Italy has for many years been exported illegally to Switzerland by Italians worried about the economic and political outlook in their own country. The traffic is still flourishing in spite of the stricter penalties recently imposed in

Rome for violations of exchange control regulations.

International gangs

In more recent years, international gangs using Switzerland as a base have been suspected of masterminding much of the organised theft of Italian art treasures, and using the border as an entrepot from which to deliver these to wealthy collectors in all parts of the world. More serious crimes, including crimes of violence, are now said to be becoming frequent.

The Swiss, who traditionally have tended to regard tolerance, and even benevolently, the smuggling of watches, cigarettes, coffee and other consumer goods across their border into Italy, are in their turn beginning to become alarmed. One very good reason is that the wave of violence in Italy is beginning to have repercussions across the border, in the growing incidence of armed robbery, holdups and similar crimes in adjoining Swiss communities, such as Lugano and Locarno, which pride themselves on their security and good order.

Volume of traffic

One of the problems of police forces in both countries is the sheer volume of human traffic between the two. In 1977, for example, some 20 m. Italians crossed the border in each direction to and from Switzerland. Comparable figures for foreigners entering and leaving Italy was 16 m. in each direction. Most of these people, most of the time, are residents of the respective frontier regions.

Obviously, it is impossible to check all these people individually, including examining

New U.S. labour legislation could give a big boost to unionisation

New labour legislation in the U.S. is expected to have considerable impact on some employers, particularly in the south, who have resisted unionisation attempts for many years. Their tactics included harassing and firing individual workers, stalling tactics, plant closings and blacklisting.

By Nancy Durne of the Financial Times, London

WASHINGTON, (FT) — "I'm scared every day I go in that plant, because I'm a strong union worker. I feel guilty, just sick to my gut, because when I go in there now, I don't know whether I am going to have a job or not. And I feel guilty about those that have been laid off, because I was one of the strong union workers that has got these people to sign up" worker at J. P. Stevens and Company plant in Montgomery, Alabama.

"In the summer of 1973, the Graphic Arts Union began to organise employees of the company, and I signed a union authorisation card... it was made known to us that anyone talking union would lose his job... the day after Christmas I was paid off" -- worker at Amsterdam Printing, Amsterdam, New York.

"In January, 1973 I hurt my back at work. I was found to be disabled and the company contested my workers' compensation claim. It took me 17 weeks to get any benefits. In 1974 my doctor said I could return to work, but the com-

pany illegally refused to let me return" -- union supporter at Dayton Tire Company, Dayton, Ohio.

Resistance to unionising

The parade of witnesses before the U.S. House of Representatives Education and Labor Committee last July told tale after tale of attempts by companies to evade, stall or break worker attempts at unionisation.

Considerable impact expected

Under the proposed legislation employers would have to pay illegally fired workers double their back wages. And, possibly an even stronger weapon, the legislation forbids the awarding of federal contracts for three years to firms found to have wilfully violated NLRB orders.

To glue back together the labour-liberal-southern coalition which put the president in office, administration and labour representatives negotiated and packaged the proposed Labour Law Reform Act of 1977. The president backed it aggressively.

It passed the House in October by an impressive 287-163 vote and awaits action in the Senate, where the legislation's backers are expecting tougher resistance.

Considerable impact expected

National politics aside, the legislation, if passed, is expected to have considerable impact on some plants which have strongly resisted unionisation attempts for decades, particularly in the south. The tactics of resistance include harassment and firing of individual workers, legal manoeuvring and stalling tactics, plant closings and blacklisting.

Under present law, workers cannot be fired for participating in union activities. But if they are discharged, the severest penalty a company can incur is back payment of wages and orders to reinstate the fired employee. Workers must petition the NLRB, a process

which often takes years.

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To streamline the NLRB decision-making process, the legislation would increase the size of the board from five to seven members and split the work-load. Almost every year the backlog of cases before the NLRB mounts. The number of petitions filed before the board has risen dramatically from an estimated 16,000 in 1967 to about 50,000 in 1977.

The New York Times has editorially called the proposed legislation "not the outrage that business contends," but predictably, most business groups disagree. The Chamber of Commerce is calling the legislation "an ill-advised attempt to further the interests of organised labour at the expense of individual workers' rights."

The National Action Committee on Organising attempts is J. P. Stevens and Company, the nation's second largest textile manufacturer, which has fought off unionisation attempts since 1963. Stevens has accumulated 15 NLRB findings that it has violated the law by refusing to bargain or by dismissing and intimidating workers and has been ordered to pay \$1.3 m. to fired employees. But the company's well publicised successes have spawned many imitators, particularly in the south, where so many other firms depend on relatively cheap, non-unionised labour.

The proposed legislation is designed to end the delaying tactics by requiring that un-

ion certifying elections be held from 25 to 75 days after petitions are filed with the NLRB. Appeals would be heard after the elections.

To streamline the NLRB decision-making process, the legislation would increase the size of the board from five to seven members and split the work-load. Almost every year the backlog of cases before the NLRB mounts. The number of petitions filed before the board has risen dramatically from an estimated 16,000 in 1967 to about 50,000 in 1977.

The New York Times has editorially called the proposed legislation "not the outrage that business contends," but predictably, most business groups disagree. The Chamber of Commerce is calling the legislation "an ill-advised attempt to further the interests of organised labour at the expense of individual workers' rights."

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Iranian premier presents record \$59.4 b. budget

The current \$49 billion budget was also a record.

The deficit budget estimated revenue at 4,029,000 billion rials (about \$57.4 billion) and expenditure at 4,179,000 billion rials (\$59.4 billion).

Expenditure on defence was cut last year because of a drop in oil income. But Dr. Amouzegar said income from oil and gas sales would rise by seven per cent to 1,542 billion rials (about \$22 billion) in the new fiscal year.

The budget allocated 700 billion rials (about \$9.8 billion) for defence in the new fiscal year, which begins on March 21.

Dr. Amouzegar also told parliament the state-owned Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) was expected to earn about 439 billion rials (about \$6.2 billion) in direct oil sales in the new fiscal year.

He said inflationary pressures had been largely contained and with active participation of the private sector sound and orderly economic expansion could be expected.

Soviet Union will finance South Yemen development projects

ADEN, Feb. 6 (R). — The Soviet Union will finance and carry out a number of development projects in South Yemen.

Prime Minister Ali Nasser Mohammad said on his return here yesterday from visits to Moscow and Iraq.

He gave no details about the planned projects but said they were part of a new economic and technical cooperation agreement signed during his three-day visit to the Soviet Union.

He described the trip as total success and said in a statement that views of South Yemen and the Soviet Union on all subjects discussed were identical.

A joint communiqué issued Saturday indicated the talks also dealt with the Somali-Ethiopian conflict in the Horn of Africa and Middle East developments.

an international band of criminals specialising in crime, blackmail and fraud. These activities by the Italian authorities have had an echo in Swiss courts and police stations. In the month of December alone a number of criminal escapees were reported in the local press of Lugano and Locarno. Prison sentences were imposed in Locarno on members of a band of drug traffickers after the police had uncovered the largest cache of heroin ever to have been smuggled into the area.

The Italian authorities have issued warrants for the arrest of two foreign exchange dealers charged with participation in the illegal export of capital, who are alleged to have taken refuge across the Swiss border.

Such cross-border capers are becoming more frequent, and indicate that the frontier has become open territory for criminals whose nationality is less significant than the fact that they act in collusion. In the most sensational and highly publicised crime of the year, a group of Italians kidnapped the son of a prominent Swiss merchant in Chile so, when his father took him for a regular riding lesson in Italy. That time the young rider was unharmed. The police are hoping to make life so pleasant for the international gangsters in the area that they will not be a next time.

-- Financial Times News Features

Editor's note: Beginning today the Jordan Times will carry the daily London Market Report.

We also plan to carry the gold price and London currency rates as soon as we are assured of a regular, reliable reception.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

	Jordanian Dinar Buying/selling
U.S. dollar	31.2/30
U.K. sterling	31.0/30
W.	

PEANUTS



ANDY CAPP



MUTT & JEFF



THE FLINTSTONES



THE BETTER HALF.



JUMBLE

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

DORBO

ELZAH

NIPPOL

BYSMOL



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: THE

Answers tomorrow

Sunday's Jumbles: ACUTE SANDY BODICE ENTICE

Answer: They have "square" faces - DICE

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

© 1978 by Chicago Tribune

DEAR MR. GOREN:

Q.—How do you respond to Blackwood when you have a void? Do you treat the void as an ace? Do you ignore it? Or is there some better way?

—N. Ellis, New York, N.Y.

(This question has been awarded the weekly prize.)

A.—The one thing you cannot afford to do is to treat a void as the equivalent of an ace. Assume that the opener holds: ♠AKxxx ♠Kx ♣A♦KQx. He opens the bidding with one spade and his partner responds three spades. Responder could

to identify the void, so on occasion you have to choose between missing the optimum contract or flirting with disaster. An alternative method is more accurate.

If you hold no ace, but have a void, sign off with five clubs. With one ace and a void, jump to the six-level in your void suit if the void is below the level of the agreed trump suit. If your void is in a higher ranking suit than the agreed trump suit, jump to six in the trump suit.

For example, suppose that hearts is the agreed trump suit. Partner bids four no trump and you hold an ace and a void in clubs. You could show your exact holding by jumping to six clubs. Now let's suppose that you hold an ace and a spade void. Since your void is in a suit ranking higher than the agreed trump suit, you would jump to six hearts.

With two aces and a void the structure is a bit more complicated. Your response in this case should be five no trump. Now opener has room at the six-level to locate your void. Naturally, with three aces and a void you should simply bid a grand slam in the agreed trump suit.

Q.—I can't remember all those oodles of figures about the mathematical possibilities of suit breaks. Isn't there a simpler way of deciding how a suit is likely to split?—L. Stern, W. Palm Beach, Fla.

A.—Indeed there is. All you need remember is that the missing cards in a suit will probably divide as evenly as possible, without actually breaking exactly. Thus, if you are missing five cards in a suit, the most likely split is 3-2; if you are missing six cards, 4-2 (the even break, 3-3, is the second most likely distribution). Similarly, eight missing cards will probably divide 5-3, with 4-4 as the next most likely distribution.

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ELIA	CUR	RAN
DELICATE	ILK	
LAD	PAS	
DOLOR	CAPONE	
EMIR	DON	NOD
NAB	VOW	DEED
TREMOR	BURLY	
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AMA	INITIATE	
NUT	VAN	ARUM
AGE	EGG	NUNS

Solution of Sunday's puzzle

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2. Observed
3. Flying saucer
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Chad severs ties with Libya

N'DJAMENA, Chad Feb. 6 (Agencies) — The central African nation Chad broke off diplomatic relations today with neighbour Libya, on account of Col. Muammar Qaddafi's extensive support to a Chadian insurgency movement, the government announced.

Chad and Libya have also been involved in a continuing dispute over Libya's planned annexation of a 35,000 sq. mile, supposedly uranium-rich territory north of the Tibesti Moun-

tain range.

The Chad government's decision, announced by Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Toussoun, followed by a day announcement of a cease-fire accord between N'Djamena authorities and breakaway rebel leader Hissene Habre.

Rebels of the Frolinat (Chad National Liberation Front), backed by Libya, control a band of territory in the northern part of Chad and have recently been attacking the military

post at Faya-Largeau in the northern part of the country.

There was speculation that the agreement with Mr. Hissene Habre, who is violently anti-Libyan, might finally produce little benefit for the Chad government. The government hopes that Mr. Habre will be able to rally anti-Libyan elements in the population.

The foreign ministers of Chad and Libya had been scheduled to meet at Niamey, Niger, on Tuesday. There was no indi-

Soviet space robot to re-enter atmosphere

MOSCOW, Feb. 6 (Agencies) — The robot space supply ship Progress 1, which linked with the Soviet Union's Salyut-Six space station on Jan. 22, was jettisoned by the space station's two cosmonauts today and began descending towards earth's atmosphere, the flight control centre reported.

Progress 1, which transferred fuel to the space station last week in the first such operation in space history, will fly for a short time by itself before hitting the atmosphere, said the official report carried by Tass.

The report indicated the craft would be completely destroyed at re-entry, but Soviet space official said last night on

Moscow Television that some debris would fall in the ocean.

The official said this would create no danger from nuclear contamination.

The statement was seen as an effort to allay any fears about debris from the spacecraft following the recent descent over northern Canada of a Soviet nuclear-powered satellite that went out of control.

Tass said the cosmonauts Yuri Romanenko and Georgy Grechko, now in their ninth week aboard Salyut, had controlled the undocking of Progress 1 from their space station.

The two men had earlier been busy pumping fuel from Progress 1 to Salyut, and taking on

board supplies of air, food, water and other items.

Progress 1 was then filled with space "rubbish" from Salyut, including empty food and water containers.

Vietnamese U.N. envoy recalled home

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 6 (R) — Averting a diplomatic impasse, Vietnam yesterday summoned home its ambassador at the U.N., who has been accused of spying against the United States.

Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi had declared on Friday that he would refuse to obey an order expelling him from the country.

No U.N. diplomat of his rank has ever been expelled from America before, although a few lower-ranking communist delegates have left after being accused of espionage.

Vietnam's turn-about was anounced in Hanoi yesterday. Vice Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said that the ambassador was being recalled because the U.S. government was hindering his activities, the official Vietnam News Agency reported.

A spokesman for the U.S. State Department yesterday said the U.S. hopes the incident will not harm efforts to establish normal relations between Washington and Hanoi.

No comment was available from the Vietnamese delegation on here.

Diplomatic sources at the U.N. said the dispute seemed over.

ARAB POTASH COMPANY LIMITED HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR MECHANICAL WORK FOR A POTASH REFINING PLANT

The Arab Potash Company Limited (APC) of Amman Jordan plans to build a solar evaporation and potash refinery facility to produce 1.2 million tons per year. The facilities will be located between Mazra and Safi on the southern end of the Dead Sea, about 220 kms. north on a new road from the Port of Aqaba. The temperature range is approximately 5 degrees to 50 degrees C. APC has applied for financing to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and various Arab Funds (AF). The proceeds of these credits will be applied to payments for materials, equipments and subcontract services for which this notice is issued.

Payment by AF, USAID and IBRD will be made only at the request of APC in accordance with the terms and conditions of the loan agreements. Purchases will be made under the guidelines of the IBRD, USAID Handbook II Country Contracting, and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the proposed agreements between APC and the Financing Agencies.

Purchases will be made from the member countries of the IBRD, Switzerland and other nations.

The Arab Potash Company invites suppliers interested in receiving inquiries to register themselves, for which purpose they should provide the following information:

- 1 — Items from categories listed below which suppliers are able to furnish including technical data and catalogues.
- 2 — Approximate time required to:
 - 2.1 Submit proposals
 - 2.2 Provide drawings and Technical Data for approval
 - 2.3 Deliver equipment to Port of Aqaba.
- 3 — List of applications where similar equipment has been in service for at least three (3) years. Listing those applications by plant name and location which may be available for inspection together with reports of operation.
- 4 — Description, Capacity and range of manufacturing facilities, number of employees, engineers etc., including current work commitments as per cent of total capacity for 1978, 1979, and 1980 on a quarterly basis.
- 5 — Union affiliation and expiration date of existing union agreements.
- 6 — List of items usually subcontracted.
- 7 — Availability of replacement parts and after sales service in Jordan
- 8 — Financial Report for last three (3) years.

In order to be considered as qualified to receive inquiries, two copies of the above information must be sent in English to, and received at, the following address by April 15, 1978.

Mr. D. Platz
Arab Potash Project
Jacobs International Limited, Inc.
Park House
North Circular Road
Dublin 7, Ireland
Telex: 30295 JCBS — E1

At the same time one copy shall be forwarded to:

Mr. Ali Khasawneh
Chairman and General Manager
Arab Potash Company Limited
P. O. Box 1470
Amman, Jordan
Telex: 9251683

The Arab Potash Company reserves the right to verify all statements and to inspect suppliers' facilities to confirm their ability to perform the work and to reject any prospective supplier without assigning any reason therefor.

The principal factors that will be considered

in evaluation of proposals from invited suppliers who have been registered will be capital cost, quality, operating cost, maintenance cost, installation costs, freight expediting and inspection costs, performance and mechanical guarantees, payment terms, delivery times, compliance with specifications and manufacturers specific experience, suppliers capacity to manufacture and deliver. Details of evaluation methods will be specified in the invitations to bid. Equipment, materials, and construction services include, but are not necessarily limited to:

A. STEAM AND POWER GENERATING PLANT

- 1 — Two (2) oil-fired packaged unit boilers using No. 6 fuel oil with No. 2 oil startup capabilities rates for 127,000 kgs. per hour of steam in the range of 43 to 64 kgs. per sq. cm. absolute and 420° C to 480° C complete with economisers, super-heaters, fans and stacks.
- 2 — One 12 to 15 m.w. 11 kv. 0.8 power factor, 50 hertz, 3,000 revolutions per minute back pressure steam turbine generator with dump condenser. The turbine will exhaust approximately 103,000 kgs. per hour for process steam at 4.5 kgs. per sq. cm. absolute.
- 3 — All other auxiliary and ancillary equipment required with the foregoing to provide complete operating steam power station

B. REFINERY

The potash refinery to produce 1.2 million tons per year of fertiliser grade potash will comprise equipment to decompose carnallite salts, leach sylvite, and crystallise, dry and store potash as follows:

Slurry pumps: To pump sodium chloride and potassium chloride slurries of various flow rates to 1,820 cubic metres per hour, carbon steel, rubber lined and alloy construction.

Centrifugal pumps: For saturated brine, cooling water, condensate, demineralised water and non-process uses. Capacities up to 10,000 cubic metres per hour. Single and multi-stage in carbon and stainless steels, rubber lined, nihard, and other alloys.

Reciprocating and rotary pumps: For hydrocarbon additives with capacities to 25 cubic metres per hour.

Tanks: Atmospheric tanks in carbon and stainless steels per API 650 code or equal. Shop fabricated and field erected tanks of various sizes to 25 metre diameters.

Heat exchangers: Plate and frame, shell and tube and plate coil types in monel, other alloys, carbon steel and including special designs. Capacities to 25 kilojoules per second.

Crystallisers: Draft tube battled type for 1.2 million tons per year production of potash from saturated NaCl / KCl brine feed. Complete with condensers and vacuum systems.

Centrifuges: Decanter and / or tumbler types in alloy, monel and carbon steel construction. Capacities to 1,800 cubic metres per hour of 25 per cent slurry.

Agitators: Various types in alloy, stainless steel and rubber lined steel. Sizes to 4,000 millimetre impellers and 275 kilowatt drives.

Belt filters: To handle up to 1,800 cubic metres per hour of 30 per cent solid slurry. Stainless steel and alloy construction, complete with vacuum pumps, receivers and traps.

Thickeners: Bridge type and centre column type, sizes to 45 metre in carbon steel, monel alloy, and plastic lined materials. Complete with raking and driving mechanisms.

Fans and blowers: Induced and forced draft fans for fuel-oil fired dryers, boilers and potash dust collection systems. Capacities to 150,000 cubic metres per hour.

Construction of the project will be performed through two general contracts. One for a power plant, the other a refinery. Both will include auxiliary and ancillary equipment which will include, the following classes of work:

Temporary construction facilities, in-plant road construction, construction craft housing, site preparation, concrete foundations and structures, structural steel supply and erection, installation of mechanical equipment, electrical, instrumentation and piping systems and installation of refractories, rubber lining and other coatings and painting.

Interested contractors should apply for the pre-qualifications booklet that will explain in detail the construction services desired.

Young: Civil war will follow Smith's efforts

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 6 (R) — America's U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young said in an interview published here today that Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith's efforts for an internal settlement were likely to lead to more violence.

In the interview with the Rand Daily Mail, Mr. Young said Mr. Smith's settlement attempts were "dangerous in that they cannot prevent a civil war."

Mr. Young went on: "In fact, an internal settlement is more likely to produce increases in violence and hostility from the liberation forces and encourage the participation of forces external to the African continent."

He said he believed the situation in South West Africa (Namibia) could be resolved through cooperation between South Africa and the West -- "in fact, it's the only way it can be resolved."

Mr. Young said: "Hopefully, peaceful settlements in Namibia and in Rhodesia will pave the way for more positive cooperation between the West and South Africa on other issues as well."

Israel says citrus sales back to normal

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6 (R) — European wholesalers are buying Israeli oranges and grapefruit again after a slump in purchases last week caused by a poisoning scare, the Israeli Citrus Marketing Board said today.

Sales of Israeli citrus fruit dropped after the discovery of oranges contaminated with metallic mercury in Holland, West Germany and Sweden. But the board said sales have now returned to normal.

A spokesman for the Israeli board said there was little trading over the weekend so actual sales figures would not be available for another few days.

The board has said the fruit must have been tampered with in Europe because it would have gone rotten before reaching the markets if it had been injected here.

Algerian economy: A race with time

Algeria has about 12 years of high income from oil, left, during which the country must either attain economic take-off point, or flop back into relative poverty and underdevelopment. The Algerians hope to beat the clock by about five years.

By Judith Perera

LONDON -- Algeria plans to be economically self-sufficient by the mid-1980s. It has an urgent incentive -- its massive oil and gas reserves are expected to last only until 1990.

One of Algeria's great problems is shortage of trained manpower. It has tried to mitigate this by an extensive programme of social improvement. The second Four-Year Plan (1973-77) which is just ending allocated quite a high percentage of its investment to social services. Of a total of 110,000 million dinars (about \$36,000 million) 43.5 per cent went to industry, 10.3 per cent to agriculture and about 37 per cent to housing, education, health and communications.

Initially the peasants took back the land wrested from them by the French settlers but they were unable to manage the large, modern farms and agricultural products fell drastically. In 1971 the government launched the Agricultural Revolution which grouped peasants with land into various kinds of cooperatives and made landless peasants the nucleus of a new system of socialist villages built on farms expropriated from absentee landlords.

This has also had its troubles, however, as the administrative system is in danger of becoming a kind of heavy bureaucracy and has been some difficulty persuading the very conservative peasants to leave the poverty for the comparative luxury of the new villages. The villages themselves are impressive, with rent-free, large houses, free water and electricity and every possible facility.

Underlying most of Algeria's policies is a determination to be really independent. Trade is conducted with the East and West despite the choice of the socialist model of development.

There is a marked lack of consumer goods with most essentials imported locally. The new imported luxury items are extremely expensive -- a bottle of French brandy, for example, costs about \$300 dinars (\$100). Much has been done since independence to break the old French economy. It has diversified trading partners to include other Western European countries, the U.S. and the East Bloc. It could be argued, however, that Algeria is running the risk of replacing France with the U.S. which is a major customer for its gas which has built most of its liquefaction plants.

Over all, the Algerian government seems to have reasonably successful record, for instance, with where dissatisfaction with problems caused by the government has led to industrial strikes, especially in the level of urban guerrilla activities.

Algeria suffers from usual bureaucracy and inefficiency, but corruption not seem to be a problem there is a large measure of free expression.

It remains to be seen whether complete self-sufficiency can be achieved by the 1980s but present progress is encouraging and certainly development has been and will be less painful than for my state.

Financial Times
News-Features